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FREE

Conference will explore ways to save energy and money

'Get to Zero CO2' conference at Red Jacket Nov. 14

By TOM EASTMAN
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

Chocorua resident Cimbria Badenhausen is driving home the message that conservation not only saves energy — it saves money.

Badenhausen is getting the word

out about a conference that is to be held at the Red Jacket Mountain View in North Conway Nov. 14, as she is hoping that local residents, government leaders and business procurers will attend the day-long session to become better informed about making energy conscious buying decisions

when they order supplies for their schools, government buildings, businesses and homes. The conference is called "Get to Zero CO2: A revolutionary new conference: save money and reduce carbon emissions."

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The event kicks off at 8 a.m. An early bird registration of \$45 will be charged prior to Oct. 31. A fee of \$60 will be charged the day of the conference.

"I am hoping community leaders will attend and learn how to incorporate sustainable practices into their procurements, and that they will learn how by doing so, it saves money as well as energy. By reducing your energy consumption, you can lower carbon emissions. I am also hoping that everyone will discuss how we can tackle these issues regionally, working with other communities here in the valley

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and the state," said Badenhausen, a former New York state resident who has resided in Chocorua for the past year and who is a longtime valley visitor, as she is a first cousin of Conway children's librarian Olga Merrill.

A member of the Tamworth Energy Committee who has also been in touch with the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce's Green Team, Badenhausen is pursuing her master's in managing for sustainability at Marlboro College in Brattleboro, Vt.

Her business is Blue Sky Environmental Strategies: Making Sustainable Connections. She does event planning,

business management, fund-raising and donor relations, special projects, staff and employment training and Web design. Her e-mail is BlueSkyDesign@gmail.com; her cell phone is (914) 588-7274.

Keynote speaker will be Kevin Lyons, Ph.D., director of purchasing for Rutgers University, who will present a workshop on "Green Purchasing and Sustainability 101." The curriculum will include supplier negotiations, developing EPP specifications, cost benefit analysis/RDI analysis, supply chain archaeol-

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ogy, developing implementation strategies and procurement.

Also speaking will be Patti Wood, executive director of Grassroots Environmental Education, who will present a workshop entitled, "How Green is My Town?"

The workshop is described as a "comprehensive program designed to provide community leaders with practical, achievable solutions for addressing issues of global warming, sustainability and environmental health at the local level."

Other presentations are to include a showing of the documentary, "Manufactured Landscapes," described by Badenhausen as an award-winning documentary that is considered to be as important as "An Inconvenient Truth" and "Who Killed the Electric Car?" "It is remarkable in its ability to communicate a cultural understanding of the catastrophic effects of current waste management practices," notes Badenhausen.

She said she is also planning to schedule a free showing of the film

at the Eastern Slope Inn in North Conway prior to the conference.

"I'm working on a date to show the film, and we will be publicizing that information to let everyone know," said Badenhausen in a recent interview at the Conway Daily Sun, which is serving as a media sponsor of the conference.

Those presentations are to be followed by the first meeting of the newly formed Mount Washington Valley Chapter of "Green Drinks," a social gathering of the Mount Washington Valley Young Professionals and Microcredit-NH. The gathering will feature a cash bar and the event is open to the public.

The night before the presentation at the Red Jacket, the Brass Heart Inn in Chocorua will host a "Welcome to the Valley" VIP party for exhibitors and sponsors.

Among local supporters and sponsors are the Mount Washington Valley Green Team, Flatbread Pizza, Marlboro College's MBA program, the Tamworth Energy Committee, the Red Jacket, the Brass Heart Inn, Carl Olson, the Conway Daily Sun, the Eastern Slope Inn, Rutgers Univer-

sity and the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce.

As part of the day-long conference, the Carroll County Transportation Committee plans to hold its monthly meeting. "The committee is exploring ways to better serve the public transportation needs of the valley and the county. They will explain the program and their goals, and they will also be seeking input from the community," said Badenhausen.

She is hoping that the conference will be the catalyst for local decision makers, individuals and business owners to get involved in sustainable practices.

"I am hoping this will become an annual event, and that we will be able to get together next year to compare and evaluate the progress we have made," said Badenhausen.

A second identical conference is slated for Nov. 17 featuring the same speakers but to be held at Lost Nation Theater, Montpelier City Hall, Vt.

For more information, e-mail her at BSSES@GetToZeroCO2.com or call 914.588-7274.

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